

Seasonal Firm COI and PDCI Transmission Offerings

The Bonneville Power Administration Transmission Business Line (BPAT) has received a number of customer inquiries regarding modification to our short-term (daily, weekly, monthly) firm transmission offerings over the COI and the PDCI as a result of the WSCC seasonal nomograms. It is BPAT's desire to minimize the possibility that firm reservations need to be curtailed on either a preschedule or real-time basis. Hence, BPAT has taken the following approach to the amount of firm transmission we offer over our share of the COI and PDCI.

The nomograms are influenced by generation and load patterns and by loadings on specific transmission lines in the PNW. The level of northern California hydro generation is also an important parameter. These generation and load levels are, in turn, driven by a number of factors, including operations for fisheries enhancements, weather conditions, and runoff. These conditions are beyond BPAT's control and are often extremely difficult to predict. In addition, planned outages in both the PNW and California can substantially lower the transfer capability over the COI and PDCI below the limits defined by the nomograms.

As a result of these uncertainties, the maximum transfer capability defined by the seasonal nomograms often cannot be realized. Therefore, it is BPAT's policy not to make short-term firm offerings based on the maximum transfer capability. BPAT will evaluate generation levels, load levels, and planned outages to estimate short-term COI and PDCI transfer capabilities. These limitations are posted on the Known Constraints Page on BPAT's OASIS. Loadings on specific transmission lines which impact the nomograms are much harder to predict. BPAT will evaluate these impacts using data on historical line loadings. BPAT will then use these estimates to determine the amount of monthly, weekly, and daily firm transmission to offer on BPAT's share of the COI and PDCI. Customers are encouraged to check BPAT's OASIS on a regular basis to determine if short-term firm transmission is available. BPAT will continue to use the 6300MW default rating to evaluate ATC for long-term (i.e., for a term of one year or more) requests.

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